

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 9, 17 and 18.

9. An AWG according to claim 1, wherein each ~~input~~ output waveguide is a double-mode waveguide.

17. An array waveguide grating (AWG) device according to claim 1, wherein the first and second slab couplers are arranged so that a longitudinal axis of the second slab coupler is substantially perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the first slab coupler, said ~~input~~ output waveguides are arranged to receive zero order output signals imaged at an output face of the second slab coupler, and the AWG device further includes additional waveguides optically coupled to the second slab coupler for conveying higher order signals comprising at least some first order output signals, away from the second slab coupler.

18. An AWG according to claim 17, wherein the ~~input~~ output waveguides are arranged so as to bend away from an area into which non-zero order output signals imaged by the second slab coupler, comprising at least some first order output signals, diverge from the second slab coupler.

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